



# November 2023

## Newsletter 6 – 24.11.23

### SECTION 1: ATTENDANCE

#### HEALTHIER TOGETHER

We have been asked to promote the Healthier Together website (<https://www.nenc-healthiertogether.nhs.uk>) which provides accurate and trusted healthcare advice for parents/carers, young people and professionals in the North East and North Cumbria. You can find parental advice on illnesses, allergies, vaccines, child development as well as many other topics. You can also download the Healthier Together app.

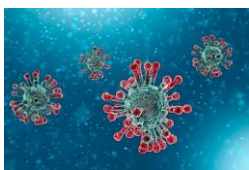


The Healthier Together website also includes the Little Orange Book which provides advice for babies and children when they are poorly.

#### ILLNESS

If your child has sickness or diarrhoea, it is recommended they remain absent for 48 hours after the last incidence in accordance with the Department of Health's guidelines. In any other circumstance, please continue to advise school on a daily basis of the reason for continued absence. The Little Orange Book is on our website to support parents to make informed decisions about keeping children off school if they are unwell.

<https://nenc-northtyneside.icb.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Little-Orange-Book-NT-version-v2.pdf>



#### COVID

Government guidance no longer advises that we test for covid, even if we are symptomatic. In line with the latest guidance on school attendance, we would expect children to come to school with general cold symptoms such as a mild cough, runny nose or sore throat but children should not come to school with a temperature of 38 degrees or above. Further guidance can be found here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/covid-19/covid-19-symptoms-and-what-to-do/>

#### WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPROVE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

- Good attendance at school is essential for children to get the most out of their school experience, including their attainment, wellbeing and wider life chances.
- Nurseries and First Schools play a vital role in embedding good attendance habits.
- Even at First School, children with the highest attainment have higher rates of attendance.
- National data shows us that children not meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and maths had an overall absence rate of 4.7% (so their overall attendance was 95.3%).
- The overall absence rate of children not meeting the expected standard was higher than among those meeting the higher standard (4.7% compared to 2.7%).

- For the most vulnerable pupils, regular attendance is also an important protective factor and the best opportunity for needs to be identified and support provided.
- Research has shown there are clear links between regular absence from school and harm for children (90% of young offenders have been persistently absent as young children) and serious violence (83% of knife possession offenders had been persistently absent for at least one year).



Improving school attendance is everyone's business. Please support us in promoting the benefits of good attendance with your child - not only for their education but, also, to support their wellbeing and future life chances. Thank you.

### WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

	Whole School Attendance (excluding Nursery)	Highest class attendance!	Second place	Third place
Wb 13.10.23	97%	Year 2 (99%)	Year 1 (98%)	Year 3 (97%)
Wb 20.10.23	97%	Year 1 (98.3%)	Year 3 (98.2%)	Year 4 (98.1%)

Our school target for attendance is 97%.



Please let Mrs Coates know, via ParentMail, if your child will be absent by 9:00am at the latest. Thank you.

If your child is not in school when the register closes at 9.15am (even if this is for a medical or dental appointment), they are marked as absent for the whole morning session. Therefore, we would encourage parents to make medical appointments outside school time, wherever possible please. Thank you.

If you are experiencing any difficulties and need support with your child's attendance, please contact school as soon as possible. Mrs Gurkin can visit you at home or meet you in school to offer support and advice.

We will now be taking appropriate legal action for children who are deemed persistent absentees (under 90% attendance). Please see the attendance policy on our school website for further information.



### MINUTES MISSED

During this fortnight, 305 (5 hours and 7 minutes) minutes of learning time have been missed in school due to lateness. Please try to arrive on time at school, between 8:35am – 8:45am. Thank you.

### PUPIL ABSENCES

	Whole School absence (excluding Nursery)	Absence caused by holidays	Other absences
Wb 13.10.23	3%	2%	1%
Wb 20.10.23	3%	2.5%	0.5%

As you know, there is no entitlement in law to time off in term time. Children who are absent from school fall behind in their learning, they miss out on school events and many find it difficult to catch up. In addition, school staff have to divert their attention away from other children in order to support those that have fallen behind due to a holiday related absence.

For this reason, any request for leave of absence due to holidays in term time will not be authorised. In the case of all unauthorised leave of absences, incurring 8 or more unauthorised sessions (4 days), an application for a Fixed Penalty Notice will be made to the Local Authority.

## SECTION 2: SCHOOL CELEBRATIONS!



### SCHOOL VALUES

As you know, our school values are love and determination, based on the Bible passage: Be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love (1 Corinthians 16:13-14). The following children have been nominated by staff and/or peers for showing these values in school. Well done everyone!



	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
<b>Demonstrating Love</b>	Molly Grace	Sami Mehr	Ruby Anneloise	George P Indi	Evelyn Lucas	Amelia Esther
<b>Demonstrating Determination</b>	Naeto Phoenix	Evie Archie	Ava Harriet	Mabel George P	Rex Danny	Nolan Sammy

### TIMES TABLE ROCKSTARS

By the end of Year 4 children are expected to know all their multiplication tables up to 12 x 12 and Year 4 children undertake their statutory Multiplication Tables Check in the summer term.



The following children have either earned a new TTRS title or engaged highly with TTRS during the last fortnight. Well done everyone!

	Children Need to Learn	Highest accuracy this fortnight	Highest engagement this fortnight	Average Daily Minutes
<b>Year 2</b>	x 2, x 5, x 10 (and corresponding division facts)	Thanuja, Max Cr, Mabel, Elvis	Max Cr, Thanuja, Mabel, Harmony	3
<b>Year 3</b>	x 2, x 5, x 10, x 3, x 4, x 8 (and corresponding division facts)	Rehan, Theo, Omar, Thomas	Rehan, Bella, Omar, George	1
<b>Year 4</b>	All tables to 12 x 12 (and corresponding division facts)	Karlo, Zain, Alfie, Yaz	Karlo, Alfie, Maya, Zain	5

Current rank of ARFS among nearby schools	11	Mean studio speed (seconds per question)	4.09
---	----	--	------

### HANDWRITING HEROES

As a school, we continue to have a real drive in school to improve handwriting, presentation of work and spelling. Each week, class teachers will choose someone who has worked hard to improve their presentation or who consistently demonstrates exemplary standards of presentation. Well done and thank you to the following children:



Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Jacob Leo	Mika Cai	Mia Elli	Omar Jacob C	Aziza Jake

## SECTION 3: SOCIAL ACTION

### SCHOOL COUNCIL

The School Council have continued their work on road safety and alerting others how to stay safe on the way to/from school.



### CHARITABLE GIVING

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Children in Need collection. We raised £85 which is fantastic.

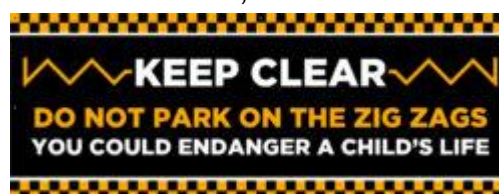
## SECTION 4: SCHOOL NEWS!



### PARKING

As the weather changes, more parents and carers tend to drive to school. Please remember that parents/carers are invited to park in ASDA and walk the remainder of the journey to school.

If you choose to drive down Christon Road, please DO NOT park in front of garages/driveways (even if they look unused) or on double yellow lines or zig-zag lines. These are here to ensure your children have a clear view of oncoming traffic when crossing the road. If cars are parked in these areas, children cannot see if it is safe to cross. Additionally, please DO NOT use the junction by the Residents Association to turn in. Reversing into a road where children are crossing is highly dangerous.



Thank you for your cooperation, support and understanding.

### CHRISTMAS PLANS!



### NATIVITIES

#### Nursery & Reception: Born in Bethlehem

- 13.12.23 at 9:30am
- 14.12.23 at 1:30pm

#### Years 1 & 2: The Sleepy Shepherd

- 13.12.23 at 1:30pm
- 14.12.23 at 5:00pm\*
- 15.12.23 at 9:30am

#### Years 3 & 4: Jesus' Christmas Party

- 13.12.23 at 5:00pm\*
- 14.12.23 at 9:30am
- 15.12.23 at 1:30pm



Parents will be issued with two seats per family, per key stage, so they can choose which performance they would like to attend. Mrs Coates will be taking bookings either by phone or by email from Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November until Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December. Extra seats may be released from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December if capacity allows. Physical tickets will not be issued; Mrs Coates will check attendance at each performance against the bookings list.

\*Years 1 & 2 and Years 3 & 4 children are invited to return to school one evening to allow parents who are unable to attend during the day an opportunity to see the Nativity too. Please book seats for a daytime performance if you are able to do so. Evening performances will both begin at 5:00pm so children will be

asked to return to school at 4:30pm to get into costumes ready for their performance. Children will be dismissed from classroom doors after they are changed out of costumes (5:45 - 6:00pm). After school club will be held in Nursery on these nights. Please indicate whether your child can attend their evening performance via the ParentMail form by Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December. Thank you.

### CHRISTMAS CARDS



We often receive a number of queries at this time of year from parents asking for class lists so their child can send Christmas cards to their classmates.

As a staff team we decided, several years ago, that in lieu of exchanging individual Christmas cards we would take part in the St Oswald' "Share a card" campaign. We intend to extend this to the children in each class this year too.

We will be giving out, upon request, class lists with first names only for data protection reasons (unless two children have the same name – in this case, we will give the least amount of letters of their surname to identify them). If you do not wish for your child's name to be included on these lists, please contact the school office. Thank you.

Christmas cards can be handed out at the beginning or end of the school day (not in class!). Thank you!



### CAROL SERVICE

There is a Carol Service planned for the final afternoon (Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December) at St Nicholas' Church for children in Years 1 - 4. The service will begin at 1:30pm and finish at 2:15pm. Children will be dismissed from church at around 2:15pm, if their parents/carers are in attendance. Please see permission form on ParentMail for children in Years 1 - 4.

Children should not bring book bags / anything extra on the last day so they don't have to carry belongings to church. Nursery and Reception children are invited to attend if they are accompanied by a parent/carer. They can be collected from school at 1:00pm. Please indicate on the ParentMail form if your Nursery or Reception child will be attending, accompanied by a parent or carer.

It would be amazing if parents and carers of children in Years 1 - 4 could meet us at school at 1:00pm and walk to church with us and sit amongst the children during the service please.

At the end of the service, each class will be taken to a separate corner of the church. Children must be signed for and only collected by the person indicated on the ParentMail form please. Any children without a parent/carer at church will return to school and can be collected at 3:15pm as usual (or attend After School Club).

### CHRISTMAS PARTIES

Food lists for Christmas parties will be issued via ParentMail this year – please sign up to bring something for your child's class if you are able to (from Monday 27<sup>th</sup> Nov). Your child may also like to wear party clothes to school (with sensible shoes please!) on their party day.



Due to the introduction of Natasha's Law, all foods must be individually wrapped with ingredients clearly listed on packaging please. Thank you for your understanding.

Class party dates are as follows:

- Tues 19<sup>th</sup> December – Years 3 & 4 parties
- Wed 20<sup>th</sup> December – Years 1 & 2
- Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December – Nursery & Reception parties



### FAMILY DAY

On Monday 18th December, each class will have a traditional “family” Christmas Day with staff and peers. This will include Christmas lunch (with crackers!), board games and/or a film (as well as a special surprise!).

Please complete the ParentMail to indicate if you would like your child to have a Christmas Lunch or if they will be bringing a packed lunch that day. Thank you.



### CHRISTMAS JUMPERS

Children (and staff) are invited to wear Christmas jumpers every Friday in December. £1 donations can be made via ParentMail for Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December. The other days do not require a donation but the PTFA will be seeking donations of tombola prizes on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December please.



### PRE-LOVED CHRISTMAS JUMPERS

Each year, the PTFA request donations of pre-loved Christmas jumpers and tops. These can be sent into school with children or dropped off at the school office before school. Thank you.

### PRE-LOVED CHRISTMAS JUMPERS



### DONATING

Many of you may know that our PTFA are registered with **easyfundraising.org.uk** which is a great way to generate free funds for the PTFA. Follow this link <http://efraising.org/dDQQY2Ddjz> to set yourself up. All the pennies really do add up! We currently only have a very small number of people using these fundraising options. It would be great to see some new users, especially as online shopping is no doubt expected to increase in the next few weeks! Any member of the PTFA would be happy to assist with set up. There are nearly 3,000 retailers on board ready to make a donation to our school every time you shop online... and it doesn't cost you a penny extra!

It's really simple, all you have to do is:

- **Join** - <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/archbishoprunciefirstptfa/> and sign up for free.
- **Shop** - Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first, pick the retailer you want and start shopping.
- **Raise** - After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation the PTFA for no extra cost whatsoever!

Join, shop and raise here:  
[easyfundraising.org.uk/archbishoprunciefirstptfa](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/archbishoprunciefirstptfa)



### PTFA DONATIONS

Our PTFA have generously donated £2000 towards the Year 1 – 4 pantomime visit in December. This will significantly reduced the cost to parents and carers. Additionally, they have purchased a whole class set of waterproofs for Nursery and Reception children.

### CHURCH LINKS

St Nicholas' Church are hosting a Family Fun Day. Please see info attached for further details.



### COLLECTIVE WORSHIP



Worship, over the last couple of weeks, has focused on how we demonstrate our school values in our work, play and all that we do. We had lovely feedback from a visitor in school this week about the warm welcome she received from the children and their impeccable manners! I'm so proud of our children for making such a wonderful impression!



## ALL STARS

We are hoping to re-start All Stars next term. All Stars is a lunchtime club, run by parents and carers, linked to Bible teaching. It will involve listening to stories, singing songs, a short prayer and lots of fun activities! If your child is interested in attending, please contact Susan (Mum of Jake in Year 4) via e-mail.

Additionally, if any parents/carers are able to support the club, your help would be greatly appreciated! Please contact Susan directly to express your interest.

Susan can be contacted via email at [susan\\_abraham@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:susan_abraham@hotmail.co.uk). Thank you!



## DONATIONS

We are seeking donations of girls and boys pants, socks and tights in ages 5-6, 6-7, 7-8 and 8-9 please. Thank you.



We would be grateful if all spare items could be washed and returned to school as soon as possible, please.

## FOOTBALL

Due to the recent weather, our playing field is saturated and not safe to play on. Therefore, football will be cancelled until Spring term when it dries out a bit!



ClassDojo

## BEHAVIOUR IN SCHOOL

The children are loving Class Dojo and our first Dojo shop customers bought themselves a treat, using their points, this afternoon! Keep it up everyone!



## WRAPAROUND BOOKINGS

Bookings for Wraparound Care are managed by Child Care Bookings for Schools. This will make managing and making bookings far easier for parents and carers. You can still pay using either a debit/credit card or using childcare vouchers.

The URL to access the booking system is <https://archbishop-runcie.cbfs.uk/>  
Contact email address: [archbishopruncie@childcarebookingsforschools.co.uk](mailto:archbishopruncie@childcarebookingsforschools.co.uk)  
Contact phone number: 01444 523335



## SAFEGUARDING

Mrs Massey, Mrs Ravel, Mrs Crozier and Mrs Francis are our school's Designated Safeguarding Leaders (DSL). Miss Wakefield is DSL for Wraparound care. If you have concerns about a child, please contact one of us. If it is an emergency and a child is in immediate danger, please call the police. Members of the public can also report concerns to Children's Social Care directly. If you have a concern about a child please contact one of the following:

- Initial Response Service – 0191 277 2500
- Northumbria Police – 101 (in an emergency always dial 999)
- NSPCC Helpline – 0808 800 5000



There is also a secure online referral form available for you to explain your concern, if you are a member of the public. <https://nccportal.newcastle.gov.uk/forms/referral/public>

For more information, you can read our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy on our school website.

With my very best wishes,

*Kate Massey*

Headteacher

**Be courageous; be strong.  
Do everything in love.**

1 Corinthians 16:13-14





## DIARY DATES

New dates are in red, for your information

November 2023			
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	Advent Worship led by Year 3	9:00am	Parents and carers welcome to attend
	Nursery & Reception Forest School	pm	Children need to wear usual uniform top with joggers and bring named wellies to change into please.
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Carbon Monoxide workshops for Years 2 & 3		
	PTFA Disco	3:15 - 4:15pm Nursery and Reception 4:30 - 5:45pm Years 1 - 4	Please see info from PTFA – deadline for payment 27/11/23. After school club will be running as usual.
December 2023			
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Children invited to wear something festive to school		Please send PTFA tombola prizes into school
	Years 1 – 4 having PE sessions		Please wear PE kit (and a Christmas jumper!)
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Family Fun Day at St Nicholas' Church (in the church hall)	2:00pm-7:00pm	More info to follow
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 2 Forest School		Children need to wear usual uniform top with joggers and bring named wellies to change into please.
	Flu vaccinations in school	TBC	
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception Stay & Play	2:00pm	Come and join your child to make some festive crafts. No need to book.
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	PTFA Film Night	3:15pm	More info to follow from PTFA. <b>No After School Club running tonight.</b> Please collect children from classrooms as usual.
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Nursery Stay & Play	2:00pm	Come and join your child to make some festive crafts. No need to book.
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Children invited to wear something festive to school		Donations to Save the Children can be made via ParentMail. Relevant classes to wear clothing/footwear suitable for PE, please.
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	All Saints' Festival of Angels		
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 3 visit to Durham University		Please see ParentMail for more info
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Nursery & Rec Nativity	9:30am	More info to follow
	Year 1 & 2 Nativity	1:30pm	More info to follow
	Year 3 & 4 Nativity	5:00pm	More info to follow
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 3 & 4 Nativity	9:30am	More info to follow
	Nursery & Rec Nativity	1:30pm	More info to follow
	Year 1 & 2 Nativity	5:00pm	More info to follow
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 & 2 Nativity	9:30am	More info to follow
	Year 3 & 4 Nativity	1:30pm	More info to follow
	Children invited to wear something festive		No cost. Relevant classes to wear clothing/footwear suitable for PE, please.
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Choir performing at St Thomas' Church	TBC	ParentMail to follow
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Class Family Christmas Days (N – Y4)	All day	More info to follow
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 & 2 visit to St Nicholas' Church	am	More info to follow via ParentMail
	Year 1 & 2 Christmas Crafts	pm	More info to follow

	Year 3 & 4 Christmas Party	pm	More info to follow
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 3 & Year 4 Tyne Theatre	10:00am	Please pay via ParentMail
	Year 1 & 2 Christmas Party	pm	More info to follow
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Year 1 & Year 2 Tyne Theatre	10:00am	Please pay via ParentMail
	Year 3 & 4 Christmas Crafts	pm	More info to follow
	Nursery & Reception Christmas Party	pm	More info to follow
	Celebrating Talents & Achievements		Children invited to bring meals, certificates or badges from out of school activities.
	Class attendance reward		More info to follow
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Year 1 – 4 Carol Service at St Nicholas' (South Gosforth)	1:30pm	More info to follow
	Children invited to wear something festive to school!		No cost. Relevant classes to wear clothing/footwear suitable for PE, please.
22.12.23 – 5.1.24	Christmas Holiday		More info to follow
<b>January 2024</b>			
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 2 leading Collective Worship	9:00am	Parents/carers welcome to attend
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	The Children's Society Christingle Service at Newcastle Cathedral (Year 4 children only)	1:30-2:30pm	
<b>February 2024</b>			
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Year 3 leading Candlemas worship	9:00am	Parents/carers welcome to attend
19.2.24 – 23.2.24	February Half Term		School closed to children
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 4 Leading Shrove Tuesday Collective Worship	9:00am	Parents/carers welcome to attend
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 1 Leading Collective Worship	9:00am	Parents/carers welcome to attend
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 3 leading Ash Wednesday Collective Worship	9:00am	Parents/carers welcome to attend
<b>March 2024</b>			
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 1 & Year 2 Mothering Sunday Service	9:00am	Parents/carers welcome to attend.
	Year 3 & Year 4 Mothering Sunday Service	2:45pm	Parents/carers welcome to attend.
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Healthy Active Lifestyle opportunity for Year 1 & Year 2 (Multiskills)	am	Children should arrive at school in PE kit please.
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 3 visit to Cragside		More info to follow
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 2 visit to Newcastle Castle		More info to follow
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 1 visit to St Mary's Lighthouse		More info to follow
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Easter Service at All Saints' Church	1:45pm	Parents and carers invited to attend
29.3.24 –	Easter Holiday		School closed to children

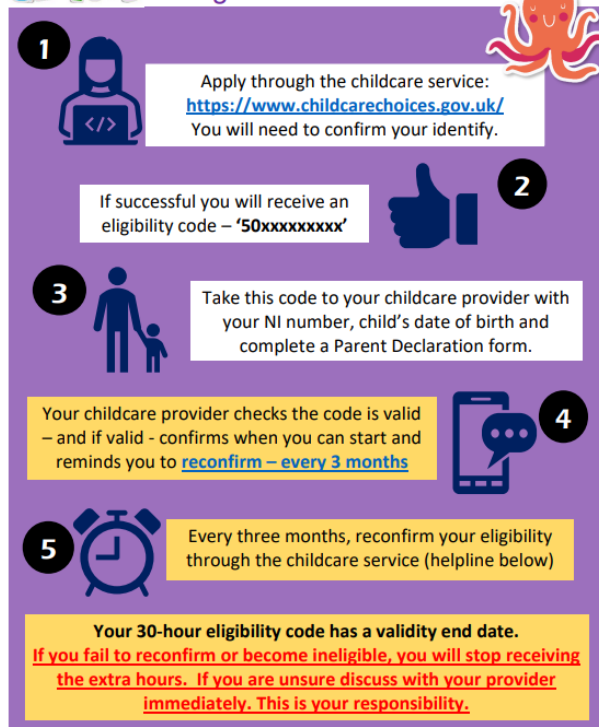
12.4.24			
<b>April 2024</b>			
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Year 1 leading Collective Worship	9:00am	Parents and carers welcome to attend
<b>May 2024</b>			
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 4 leading Ascension worship	9:00am	Parents/carers welcome to attend
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 1 leading Christian Aid Collective Worship	9:00am	Parents and carers welcome to attend
	Healthy Active Lifestyle opportunity for Nursery & Reception children	am	Children will wear PE kits already in school
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	No Outsiders demo lessons, open lesson and staff training.		More info to follow
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Pentecost Service at St Nicholas' Church (led by Year 3)	1:30pm	Parents and carers invited to attend.
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 4 leading Trinity worship	9:00am	Parents/carers welcome to attend
27.5.24 – 31.5.24	May Half Term		School closed to children
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 4 Residential at Dukeshouse Wood		More info to follow
<b>June 2024</b>			
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2024	Staff training day		School closed to children
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 3 sleepover at school		More info to follow
<b>July 2024</b>			
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Year 2 visit to Grace Darling Museum		More info to follow
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Music Concert at All Saints' Church		More info to follow
22.7.24 – 30.8.24	Summer Holidays		School closed to children
<b>September 2024</b>			
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2024	School re-opens to children		


**Be courageous; be strong.**


**Do everything in love.**


1 Corinthians 16:13-14


Childcare Applying for 30 hours free childcare  
**Choices** through the childcare service




**1**  Apply through the childcare service:  
<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>  
You will need to confirm your identify.

**2**  If successful you will receive an eligibility code – '50xxxxxxxx'

**3**  Take this code to your childcare provider with your NI number, child's date of birth and complete a Parent Declaration form.

**4**  Your childcare provider checks the code is valid – and if valid - confirms when you can start and reminds you to [reconfirm – every 3 months](#)

**5**  Every three months, reconfirm your eligibility through the childcare service (helpline below)

**Your 30-hour eligibility code has a validity end date.**  
**If you fail to reconfirm or become ineligible, you will stop receiving the extra hours. If you are unsure discuss with your provider immediately. This is your responsibility.**

For support call Customer Interaction  
Centre on **0300 123 4097**

